

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9563

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 7681

NODIS

DAR FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

SECSTATE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PLANE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.) PFOR

SUBJ: MOBUTU DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE SECRETARY

REF: A. STATE 225479 B. STATE 225474

1. I SAW PRESIDENT MOBUTU MORNING OF SEPT 14 TO RELAY PROPOSAL REF A OF SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN KINSHASA EVENING OF SEPT 21, TALK WITH MOBUTU, OVERNIGHT, AND DEPARTURE MORNING OF SEPTEMBER 22 AFTER SECOND MEETING WITH MOBUTU.

2. PRESIDENT MOBUTU WAS DELIGHTED AT PROSPECT OF SECRETAR'S VISIT AND ACCEPTED IMMEDIATELY. HE DID SAY THAT HE WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THE SECRETARY COULD ARRIVE THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 21 BETWEEN 5:00 P.M. AND 7:00 P.M. (MOBUTU GOES TO BED FAIRLY EARLY). I PROMISED TO RELAY THIS REQUEST TO THE SECRETARY.

3. MOBUTU, AT FIRST, WANTED THE SECRETARY TO MEET WITH HIM IN LUBUMBASHI, BUT AFTER I POINTED OUT THE COMMUNICATION DIFFICULTIES OF SUCH A SCENARIO -- ESPECIALLY FOR THE PRESS -- HE AGREED THAT KINSHASA WAS PREFERABLE FROM LOGISTICS STANDPOINT. HE WONDERED, HOWEVER, IF LUBUMBASHI MIGHT BE CONSIDERED FOR A SUBSEQUENT STOP, IF THE SECRETARY WERE TO REMAIN IN THE AREA FOR SOME TIME AND IN THE EVENT HE WOULD WISH TO VISIT ZAIRE
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A SECOND TIME. I SAID I COULD NOT SPECULATE, BUT WOULD PASS

THE IDEA ALONG.

4. ALTHOUGH MOBUTU CLEARLY LIKES THE IDEA OF MEETING IN LUBUMBASHI, HE MADE CLEAR KINSHASA IS PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE TO HIM. I ASSUME I DID THE RIGHT THING IN POINTING OUT THE NEEDS OF THE PRESS FOR GOOD COMMUNICATION, BUT IF THERE IS NO NEED FOR THE PRESS TO FILE FROM LUBUMBASHI, THE SECRETARY MIGHT CONSIDER THE LUBUMBASHI OPTION. PLEASE ADVISE. IN THE MEANTIME, WE WILL CONTINUE TO PLAN ON KINSHASA PER REF (A).

5. THERE ARE SEVERAL OTHER QUESTIONS THAT REQUIRE ATTENTION:

(A) THE TWO SCHEDULES OUTLINED IN THE REFTELS CONFLICT SOMEWHAT. WE PRESUME THAT THE SHORTER TIME FRAME IN REF (A) IS THE OPERATIONAL ONE. PLEASE CONFIRM.

(B) WE WOULD APPRECIATE URGENT GUIDANCE ON PLANS FOR PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT RE SECRETARY'S IMPENDING VISIT HERE SO WE MAY COORDINATE WITH GOZ.

(C) IF MRS. KISSINGER AND THE OTHER LADIES ARE COMING TO KINSHASA, PARTY SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S WIFE, MRS. NGUZA, WILL BE OUT OF TOWN AND THAT MRS. MOBUTU HAS RECENTLY SUFFERED A MISCARRIAGE AND IS THUS UNLIKELY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE VISIT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, PLANNING MEETINGS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, MEETINGS, CAT-A
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KINSHA07681
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: PLEASE PASS TO SECRETARY'S PLANE
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840098-2302, N760006-0881
From: KINSHASA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760963/aaaacbzn.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 225479, 76 STATE 225474
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <07 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOBUTU DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE SECRETARY
TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, US, CG, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (MOBUTU SESE SEKO)
To: STATE DAR ES SALAAM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006